Budget Justice

New York State is in a deep budget crisis, the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic has made existing inequities worse. While New York lost 3 million jobs, the ultrarich got even richer. We support several proposals that would raise billions in revenue from the ultra-wealthy, such as a Progressive Income Tax or closing Wall Street loopholes like the Carried Interest Loophole or Banning Stock BuyBacks, or ending the rebate for the Stock Transfer Tax.

ASK: Will you sign the budget pledge to raise revenue that is progressive - meaning the wealthy pay their fair share - and raises more money than just filling the budget deficit?

Rolling Back Corporate Tax Cuts (S.2833 Sen. Hoylman / A.4595 AM Kelles): This state level surtax will force corporations to pay taxes at the level prior to the 2017 Trump Tax cuts.

ASK: Will you co-sponsor this bill?

Broadband

Comprehensive Broadband Data Collection (AM Burke / S.4878A Sen. Ryan): This important legislation, which provides for more accurate, granular mapping of broadband access, passed nearly unanimously over the summer, however because it lacked funding, the Governor pocket vetoed the bill. The Governor has since committed to including this in the final FY22 budget.

ASK: Will you co-sponsor this legislation to show your support and support this ask in the one house budget by talking to leadership?

Graduate Student Workers

Graduate Student Worker Fee Waiver (AM Bronson / S.4972 Sen. Stavisky): This legislation eliminates fees for full or half-time graduate student teaching or research assistants.

ASK: Will you co-sponsor this legislation and support this ask in the one house budget by talking to leadership?
LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Telecommunications

Broadband For All: This package of legislation ensures that all New Yorkers have access to high-speed, high-quality, affordable broadband.

**ASK: Will you co-sponsor the following legislation?**

- **Oversight for Quality & Resiliency of Broadband by the PSC (S.5117 Sen. Ryan / AM Rozic):** This legislation explicitly grants the PSC state oversight authority of broadband and VoIP to ensure quality, resiliency and public safety.

- **Regional Broadband Councils (Sen. May / AM Burke):** This legislation establishes regional broadband councils which provide a forum for stakeholders, allowing them to develop broadband plans and apply for state grants in order to further broadband access in their region.

- **Facilitating Access to Deliver Fiber Services:** This legislation would give internet service providers the right to access any building where there is or was telephone service for the purpose of upgrading the copper to fiber in order to deploy broadband service to New Yorkers.

Health Care

**NY Hero (S.1034 Sen. Gianaris / A.2681 AM Reyes):** This legislation would create health and safety standards for workplaces, including PPE and social distancing, in order to protect workers and the public in the case of an airborne infectious disease, like COVID-19. Additionally, this legislation would authorize the creation of health and safety committees to allow employers and employees to work together to ensure safety in the workplace.

**ASK for Assemblymembers: Will you co-sponsor this legislation?**

Labor and Organizing

**Worker Retention in Call Center Contracts (S.4973 Sen. Ramos / AM Joyner):** This legislation would require that incumbent workforces of Government contracted call centers are retained if the contract is rebid and awarded to a new contractor.

**ASK: Will you co-sponsor this legislation?**

**Banning Captive Audience Meetings (S.4873 Sen. Ramos / A.1540 AM Reyes):** Captive audience meetings are mandatory meetings often used in union-busting campaigns. This legislation would prevent employers from requiring employees to attend any mandatory meetings during work hours.

**ASK: Will you co-sponsor this legislation?**

Climate Justice

**Climate and Community Investment Act (CCIA):** Building on the Climate and Community Protection Act, this legislation would help fund the transition to a renewable energy economy by making polluters pay for the damage they’re doing to our climate and our communities.

**ASK: Will you co-sponsor this legislation?**
MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT
BUDGET JUSTICE - A JUST BUDGET
RAISING REVENUE, AVOIDING CUTS, AND INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES

New York State is facing a fiscal crisis and we cannot cut our way out. We cannot cut critical funding or allow mass layoffs. Furthermore, we must invest in our recovery for the long-term health of our State. CWA will be directly impacted by threatening our health care workers, SUNY graduate student employees, and NYC public sector workers. Oppose cuts and make the rich pay their fair share!

THE PROBLEM

★ New York is the most unequal state in the country with more multi-millionaires and billionaires than anywhere else. And yet, New York has a crumbling infrastructure, millions owed to our public schools, 92,000 homeless and is facing drastic cuts to vital services like health care.

★ New York’s wealthy pay less in taxes than working class people: The tax obligations of America’s billionaires decreased 79% between 1980 and 2018. The top 1% pays less in New York taxes than low-income and middle-class New Yorkers. New York has the 44th most unfair state and local tax system in the country.

★ Federal bailout funds won’t be enough to address New York’s needs. If a federal bailout occurs which is comparable in magnitude to the 2009 Great Recession federal stimulus, New York State will still face a budget shortfall of $46 billion over the next four years, and New York City will face an additional $10.6 billion in shortfalls (not to mention municipal and county shortfalls from Buffalo to Suffolk).

★ Budget cuts are hurting communities -- workers and small businesses need help. Failure to raise revenue to fill these gaps will cause and have already caused damage to schools, hospitals, and vital public services. Thousands of teachers have already been laid off.

★ Communities of color and low-income New Yorkers are being hit the hardest by the pandemic and the economic fallout. Low-income, of color communities have suffered the highest infection and mortality rates as well as the highest unemployment rates. Meanwhile, the whitest, wealthiest neighborhoods enjoy the lowest infection rates, and the wealthiest among us have actually seen their wealth expand.
THE SOLUTIONS: BUDGET JUSTICE

★ Budget justice by raising revenue from pandemic profiteering and the ultrarich can provide immediate funding for real relief. The only way to deal with this crisis equitably is to ask the wealthiest among us to share the pain, and to chip in their fair share.

★ Budget justice by raising revenue among the rich is popular with New Yorkers! A recent poll found that 90% support a graduated set of bracket increases on income exceeding $1 million a year.

★ Budget justice by raising revenue from the wealthy is good for the economy! Studies have shown that progressive revenue raisers are better for the economy than budget cuts.

★ We support several proposals that would raise billions in revenue from the ultra-wealthy, such as a Progressive Income Tax or closing Wall Street loopholes like the Carried Interest Loophole or Banning Stock BuyBacks, or ending the rebate for the Stock Transfer Tax.

ASK: Will you sign the pledge to support revenue that are progressive - meaning the wealthy pay their fair share - and raise more money than just filling the budget deficit?

For more information, contact CWA District 1 at 212-344-2515

CWA
MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

ROLLING BACK CORPORATE TAX CUTS
(S.2833 Hoylman/ A.4595 Kelles)

THE PROBLEM

➔ The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown our state into a deep economic recession, and while federal aid will provide welcome and badly needed one-time relief, we need to raise recurring revenue to rebuild our state.

➔ In 2017, Trump’s tax cuts in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) reduced the federal corporate profit tax rate from 35% to 21%, and Trump cut taxes on real estate businesses by 20%.

➔ Corporations had been economically thriving just fine paying the 35% since the 1986 tax reforms during the Reagan administration, which was the only other time in the last 125 years that the corporate tax rate dropped at this steep a rate (see trend here).

➔ NY state corporate taxes are quite low compared to neighboring states at 6.5%, which is a reduction after Cuomo’s cut in 2015 from 7.1%. Pennsylvania is at 10% and NJ is at 11.5%.

➔ If the federal government undoes the TCJA corporate tax cut this state tax would go away. President Biden has said that he plans on increasing the corporate tax rate to 28%. This would bring the state tax rate to 13.5% with this surtax, which is not significantly different from surrounding states.

THE SOLUTION

Raise Revenue by rolling back corporate tax breaks

★ The corporate tax bill is a straightforward surtax at the state level calculated as the differential between where the federal corporate tax rate is right now and raises it to pre-TCJA levels.

★ This surtax is on a corporation’s taxable income after any deductions so it will not affect the extensive tax prep process that has been in place already for corporations.

★ This surtax will also not affect small businesses since most are not incorporated. Because it reverts back to the progressive pre-TCJA corporate tax rate, it will also not affect small corporations with very small profits.

★ New York can end these tax breaks in our state so that businesses pay the same tax as they did three years ago.

STATUS OF BILL

3/1/21: This legislation has referred to the Ways and Means committee in the Assembly and the Budget and Revenue Committee in the Senate.
COSPONSORS

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<td><strong>Sponsor:</strong> Kelles</td>
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<td><strong>Cosponsors:</strong> Epstein, Rosenthal L, Niou, Kim, Mamdani, Gallagher, De La Rosa, Reyes, Solages, Mitaynes, Carroll, Thiele, Burgos, Simon, Gottfried, Forrest, Anderson, Cruz, Davila, Seawright, Bichotte Hermelyn, Hunter, Gonzalez-Rojas, Pichardo, Fahy, Steck, Meeks, Walker, Sillitti, Clark, Jackson, McDonald, Dinowitz</td>
<td><strong>Cosponsors:</strong> BENJAMIN, BIAGGI, BRESLIN, BRISPORT, COMRIE, GIANARIS, JACKSON, LIU, MYRIE, PARKER, RAMOS, RIVERA, SALAZAR, SANDERS, SEPULVEDA, SERRANO</td>
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*Raise revenue for our recovery by rolling back corporate tax breaks!*

For more information, contact CWA District 1 at 212-344-2515

CWA
THE PROBLEM

➔ High-speed internet is an essential infrastructure of the 21st century. All New Yorkers deserve reliable and affordable high-speed Internet.

➔ But unfortunately, many communities — particularly rural and upstate communities — are unserved or underserved.

➔ More than three decades of deregulation have left policymakers with few tools to require the universal deployment of affordable high-speed networks to all communities. The reliance on the private sector alone has resulted in a lack of good data and a lack of good policy levers to ensure universal high-quality service that meets the needs of all New Yorkers.

➔ Data by the Federal Communication Commission FCC which New York State relies on is insufficient. The FCC’s current data collection process requires broadband providers to report deployment at the census block level. However, the FCC’s methodology considers an entire census block served if only one household has access to broadband. This flawed methodology can dramatically overstate broadband deployment, particularly in rural areas where homes and buildings are spread further apart within census blocks.

➔ More granular broadband mapping is an essential next step in continuing the progress of expanding access to high-quality, affordable, broadband access in New York State.

THE SOLUTION

In 2020, this bill passed the legislature nearly unanimously. However, because the bill was done outside of the budget process, the Governor pocket vetoed the bill with a commitment to include mapping in the upcoming FY22 budget. **We must make sure this important bill is included in the FY22 budget by including this language in the one house.**

★ **Collect** granular data to understand who has and does not have access to broadband
★ **Determine** the availability, quality, reliability, and affordability of that service.
★ **Investigate** instances where local agreements to build out broadband and deliver a certain level of service have not been complied with.
★ **Evaluate** the efficacy of relying solely on the private sector to fulfill the goal of universal, high-speed, affordable broadband

Support broadband for all by including this bill in the FY22 budget!

For more information, contact CWA District 1 at 212-344-2515
MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

ELIMINATING FEES FOR GRADUATE STUDENT EMPLOYEES
(Budget Request & S.4972 Sponsored by Sen. Stavisky and AM Bronson)

At our states’ public institutions of higher education, graduate student employees who are relied on to teach classes, grade papers and conduct research are collapsing under the weight of onerous school fees.

THE PROBLEM

➔ CWA-GSEU (Graduate Student Employees Union) represents all Teaching and Graduate Assistants enrolled in SUNY, the largest state university system in the nation. SUNY employs approximately 4,500 graduate students and CUNY employs approximately 2,000 graduate students as teaching and research assistants who teach courses, grade exams and papers, and conduct laboratory research. During COVID-19, many graduate workers were forced to continue teaching in person. Others were allowed to teach remotely, which presented its own challenges.

➔ While tuition is waived, graduate student employees are still forced to pay onerous fees. These fees amount to 15-20% of their salaries. This remained true throughout the pandemic.

➔ In recent years, the cost of these fees has risen steadily at public colleges and universities in the U.S. The increase in fees represents a financial response to the problem of inadequate state funding for public higher education. Fees often function as backdoor tuition for public universities to circumvent state-imposed tuition caps and sustain their operating costs.

➔ In many cases, these fees fund systems and services that graduate workers rely on in their capacity as employees, such as the software programs used to collect and assess student assignments and submit grades. This constitutes a “pay-to-work” system in which employees are being charged for the maintenance and upkeep of the workplace, rather than the employer bearing full responsibility for such operating costs, as is the norm in most workplaces.

Every year, graduate employees take out loans, skip meals, and even sell blood plasma just to pay their fees.
THE SOLUTION

Allocate $10 million to waive fees for 6,350 SUNY and CUNY graduate student workers in the FY2022 budget.

STATUS OF BILL

We are advocating for this item to be included in the FY 2022 budget. It is also a standalone bill filed by Senator Stavisky (S.4972).

In 2019, this bill passed the Senate. In 2020, this bill passed the Senate Higher Education Committee and had nearly 60 sponsors in the Assembly and approximately 30 in the Senate.

COSPONSORS

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<th>ASSEMBLY</th>
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<td><strong>Sponsor:</strong> Bronson</td>
<td><strong>Sponsor:</strong> Stavisky</td>
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PROPOSED BUDGET LANGUAGE

“All current and future mandatory university fees, with the exclusion of the graduate student association student activity fee, shall not be charged to a SUNY graduate student serving a minimum half time appointment as a graduate teaching assistant, graduate assistant, graduate research assistant, graduate research associate, or graduate teaching associate, or to a CUNY graduate student serving as a Graduate Assistant, Adjunct Instructor, Adjunct Lecturer, Adjunct College Laboratory Technician or a Non-teaching Adjunct.”

State higher education institutions cannot close their funding gaps on the backs of graduate student workers, who are already struggling to pay for basic needs!

Support graduate student workers by supporting this budget ask!

For more information, contact CWA District 1 at 212-344-2515

CWA
MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT
BROADBAND FOR ALL
(Package of Legislation)

THE PROBLEM

➔ Without question, broadband is the essential infrastructure of the 21st century and over the past year, COVID-19 has cast a bright light on this truth. Yet, too many New Yorkers lack access to high-speed and affordable internet. In fact, nearly one-fourth of New York State households don’t have home broadband.

➔ During COVID-19, high-speed internet has been a true lifeline allowing parents to work from home, kids to go to remote school, and friends and family to stay in touch.

➔ However, more than three decades of deregulation have left policymakers with few tools to require the universal deployment of affordable high-speed networks to all communities.

➔ Allowing telecom companies to pick and choose where they wanted to compete meant that some communities never got telecom fiber that would compete with cable companies.

➔ Much of New York State endures a cable monopoly, with leaves consumers with expensive and inadequate service.

➔ In many rural areas, there is no high-speed service at all—and no mechanism for regulators to force buildout.

➔ Too many communities are being left behind—particularly in rural areas where costs are higher, and in upstate cities, where residents tend to be low-income.

_all New Yorkers deserve access to high-quality, high-speed broadband service._

THE SOLUTION

While the Governor has committed to addressing broadband affordability, this package of legislation is designed to ensure high-quality service and further deployment of broadband networks.

1. **Ensuring the Resiliency, Quality and Public Safety of Broadband (Ryan S.5117/Rozic):**
   This legislation would explicitly authorize the public service commission to exercise oversight over broadband/VoIP and direct the public service commission to exercise authority and promulgate rules and regulations to regulate broadband and VoIP including but not limited to the areas of resiliency and public safety.
2. **Regional Broadband Councils (May/Burke):** This legislation would authorize the creation of regional broadband councils which would allow municipalities and local governments to join together to aggregate market demand, obtain information from ISPs related to deployment, availability and pricing, apply for Federal and State funding, and pool resources and information in order to enter into public-private partnerships to deploy broadband to unserved and underserved communities.

3. **Facilitating Access to Deliver Fiber Services:** This legislation would give telephone companies the right to access any building where there is or was telephone service for the purpose of upgrading the copper to fiber in order to deploy broadband service to New Yorkers.

Support high-speed, high-quality broadband access for all New Yorkers by supporting the **Broadband for All** package!

*For more information, contact CWA District 1 at 212-344-2515*

**CWA**
MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT
New York Health and Essential Rights Order (NY HERO)
(S.1034 Gianaris/ A.2681 Reyes)

THE PROBLEM

➔ Over 38,000 New Yorkers have already died from COVID-19, and hundreds more are dying everyday.

➔ Workers have mostly been left to face COVID-19 alone - without adequate protections from their employers or the federal Government.

➔ In New York, far too many workers have and continue to work without the necessary equipment and protocols to protect themselves. Many workers still do not have the masks, gloves, or access to sanitary facilities that are critical in preventing infection. Many workers are unable to socially distance from their co-workers or customers or work in crowded spaces without proper ventilation.

➔ Far too many workers are unable to speak up in the workplace about health and safety violations without fear of retaliation. This has led to workers facing the brunt of the deadly consequences of COVID-19.

➔ In order to slow the spread of Covid-19, and protect workers from future airborne infectious disease outbreaks, we must slow workplace spread by creating enforceable healthy and safety standards that ensure every workplace is safe.

➔ Every worker deserves to go to work without fearing that they may bring the virus home to their loved ones.

THE SOLUTION

Pass NY HERO!

★ NY Hero directs the Department of Labor to issue an airborne infectious disease standard that must be followed by businesses to protect all workers in the state, which will include protocols on: face masks, PPE, social distancing, hand hygiene, disinfection, and engineering controls. Absent OSHA action, other jurisdictions have created enforceable standards with consequences for violations - it’s now time for New York to act.

★ NY Hero authorizes the creation of health and safety committees which are empowered to raise complaints and evaluate workplace safety. Workers are best positioned to identify the safety and health risks in their workplace, and research has shown that worker voice has a positive impact on employer compliance with the law.
★ NY Hero protects workers against retaliation when exercising their rights for a safe workplace.

NY Hero is endorsed by 80+ labor, community and advocacy groups.

→ https://protectnyheroes.org/

STATUS OF BILL

3/1/21: This legislation has PASSED through the Senate and is currently in the Assembly Labor Committee.

COSPONSORS

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<td>Sponsor: Reyes</td>
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<td><strong>Cosponsors:</strong> Lupardo, De La Rosa, Rosenthal L, Rozic, Gottfried, Burdick, Seawright, Barron, Rivera J, Montesano, Englebright, Jacobson, Taylor, Zinerman, Perry, Meeks, Clark, Lunsford, Gonzalez-Rojas, Dinowitz, Mamdani, Simon, Hevesi, Dickens, Jackson, Gallagher, Fernandez, Colton, Rajkumar, Epstein, Sillitti, Rosenthal D, Carroll, Mitaynes, DeStefano, Pheffer Amato, Quart, Bronson, Nolan, Forrest, Lavine, Rodriguez, Benedetto, Abbate, Thiele, Anderson, O'Donnell, Barnwell, Burgos, Cruz, Septimo</td>
<td><strong>Cosponsors:</strong> BAILEY, BENJAMIN, BIAGGI, BRISPORT, BROOKS, BROUK, COONEY, GAUGHAN, GOUNARDES, HINCHY, HOYLMAN, JACKSON, KENNEDY, KRUEGER, LIU, MANNION, MAY, MAYER, PARKER, RAMOS, REICHLIN-MELNICK, RIVERA, RYAN, SALAZAR, SANDERS, SAVINO, SEPULVEDA, SKOUFIS, THOMAS</td>
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Support New York’s working people by co-sponsoring NY HERO (S.1034/A.2681)!

For more information, contact CWA District 1 at 212-344-2515

CWA
MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT
Responsible Contracting for State Contracted Call Centers
(S.4973 Senator Ramos and Assemblymember Joyner)

THE PROBLEM

➔ Some state and local governmental bodies in New York contract with private sector employers for call center services.

➔ The government entities that contract for such services periodically re-bid the work, often required by law. However, the re-bidding can be extremely detrimental to the employees who do this work.

➔ Even though these may have become highly knowledgeable and efficient in their work, they may be entirely displaced if the successor contractor decides to use a different workforce. Call center employees live in dread of this kind of displacement.

➔ The State of New York should be the ultimate, exemplary employer and follow best practices for responsible contracting.

THE SOLUTION

This bill requires only that when the State decides to procure new contracts for call center services, they require bidders to agree to retain the existing workforce for a period of 90 days. During the 90-day period, the employees may be dismissed only for just cause. At the conclusion of that period, the employee must be provided a written evaluation and if the employee’s service has been satisfactory, the employee must be offered continued employment.

Such worker retention policies are a best practice in service contracting. Nondisplacement requirements for government service contractors ensure continuity of a well-trained and experienced workforce, which can help ensure high service quality. It also prevents disruption to vulnerable frontline workers. This is why several states and cities have workforce retention requirements on certain publicly-funded service contracts, including California, Rhode Island and New York City.¹

STATUS OF BILL

This is new legislation, introduced by Senator Ramos (S.4973) and Assemblymember Joyner. The Assembly bill number is still pending.

¹ N.Y.C. Admin. Code § 22-505.
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Support call center workers and co-sponsor this legislation!

For more information, contact CWA District 1 at 212-344-2515

CWA
MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

PROTECT EMPLOYEE FREEDOM OF SPEECH & CONSCIENCE
(Ramos S.4873/Reyes A.1540)

“Captive Audience” meetings are a tactic routinely used in union-busting campaigns by anti-union employers. We must protect workers’ right to organize!

THE PROBLEM

Captive audience meetings are mandatory meetings held by an employer during work hours in order to pressure employees against joining a union, interrogate workers about the organizing campaign, and disseminate union-bashing materials like videos and flyers.

A 2009 study found that employers held captive audience meetings in 89% of union election campaigns between 1999 and 2003. This tactic is a major factor in why private sector unionization has fallen to 6.4%.

WHAT THE BILL WOULD DO

Assembly bill sponsored by Assemblymember Reyes and Senate Bill sponsored by State Senator Jessica Ramos would prevent employers from retaliating against an employee for refusing to attend mandatory meetings on religious or political matters.

STATUS OF BILL

This bill is currently in the Senate labor committee and the Assembly labor committee.

BACKGROUND

Today, 6.4% of private-sector employees in the United States are represented by a union, down from 35% in the 1950s. Yet, study after study shows that if workers had a free choice, they would choose to vote for a union. However, many union organizing campaigns fail due to intense union-busting by employers. Captive audience meetings are one of the key weapons for union-busting consultants and employers.
The win rate in union certification campaigns was 73%, but that figure dropped to 47% when management held captive audience meetings.

Under existing labor law, anti-union captive audience meetings are perfectly legal: employers can require employees to attend captive audience meetings, discipline or discharge employees who refuse to attend, leave early, or ask questions, schedule as many meetings as they like, and hold meetings at any time during the workday as long as it is not within 24 hours of a scheduled election. On the other hand, unions have no right to hold their own meetings with workers on company property, nor are employers required to permit union organizers access to company property or employee lists!

Recognizing this disparity in free speech opportunities, a number of states have proposed or passed legislation to prohibit employers from requiring employees to attend meetings on the subject of unionization. In 2009, Oregon became the first state to pass such a law and so far, it has withstood any legal challenges. Connecticut is also considering this legislation.

COSPONSORS

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Protect workers’ right to organize and co-sponsor this bill!

For more information, contact CWA District 1 at 212-344-2515
The Climate and Community Investment Act (CCIA) (S4264) raises \textdollar15\text{ billion per year} from corporate polluters and uses it to create good, green jobs, invest in frontline communities, and build a renewable economy for New York State.

**Community investment**

One-third of the funds raised will go to community-based organizations in frontline communities for local programs like community-owned solar, making homes, apartments, and schools more energy-efficient, and investing in adaptation infrastructure. Additional funds will be available for current fossil fuel workers and host communities.

**Creating good, green jobs**

Research shows that the CCIA would create and sustain over 150,000 good, green jobs over the first decade. The CCIA includes gold-standard labor provisions, including prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements. People in frontline communities, formerly incarcerated New Yorkers, women in non-traditional trades, and people coming off of unemployment will be prioritized for jobs building our renewable economy.

**Building a renewable economy**

Thirty percent of the money will go to large-scale investments such as a major solar arrays, offshore wind, grid stability, electric vehicle infrastructure, improvements to public housing and public transit. The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, passed last year, set nation-leading standards for getting off of fossil fuels. The CCIA raises the money to get there.
Make polluters pay for the just transition

For too long, fossil fuel companies have dumped their toxic facilities and waste in Black and brown neighborhoods, sacrificing the health of entire communities in order to make obscene profits for shareholders. The Climate and Community Investment Act would make them pay, by instituting a fee on greenhouse gases and co-pollutants. The fee would largely be paid by the companies importing fossil fuels into New York state. At a starting price of $55 per ton of greenhouse gas emissions, which will increase year over year, the CCIA would raise around $15 billion per year over the first 10 years.

Protecting ratepayers

One third of the money raised by the CCIA would be used to provide direct assistance to low-and moderate income families via transit vouchers, weatherization or LIHEAP credits, or direct cash benefits. People will be automatically enrolled in this rebate program. Even if fossil fuel companies try to retaliate by raising costs, this energy rebate program will ensure that the lowest-earning 60% of New Yorkers will come out the same or ahead.

Join us, and make NY the nation's climate leader

New York led the nation when we passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act last year. It's time to build on that legacy by enacting a massive revenue and spending plan to meet our state's goals for climate, jobs, and justice. NY Renews is the 200+ member coalition that fought to pass the CLCPA, and now we're ready to win this money for our communities. Join us at www.nyrenews.org.